

Srinivasan (1954) has reported this species from Nancowry Island of the Andaman-Nicobar archipelago in the Bay of Bengal. A perusal of the literature on Indian marine flora shows that no further collection of this species was made anywhere in the Indian region in the last four decades, thereby indicating its restricted distribution on the Indian coasts (Anonymous, 1983; Jagtap, 1985; Anonymous, 1987).

The authors, while studying the Marine Algal Flora of Andaman-Nicobar Islands, collected this taxon from Red Skin Island of Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park near Port Blair, South Andaman, confirming its extended distribution in the Indian region. It is seen growing attached to coralline rocks in a sheltered bay, forming clumps below the low tide mark. Sometimes the alga may be mistaken for some marine animal with its thick caterpillar-like form, owing to the presence of characteristic sub-spheroid branched structures, the glomerules contiguously placed on the upright shoots.

Taxonomic Description: Coenocyte slightly calcified. Prostrate system thick branched, creeping rhizome, monosiphonous, constricted at shorter or longer intervals, up to 550 μ or more across. Rhizoids constricted at base, torulose. Flabella rare. Erect system with several erect shoots. Shoots with a series of glomerules giving a characteristic appearance to the alga. About 16 glomerules on each axial filament, each measuring 1 cm high and 1 cm

broad. On drying, the alga takes on an ash colour, because of the feeble calcification of the glomerules.

Conservation: The natural habitats from where the authors and Srinivasan (1954) have reported *T. expeditionis* are known to show only a few patches of the alga and its collection is attended with a certain amount of risk. The coralline rocks on which this rare green alga grows are constantly dashed by waves, and are almost always completely submerged by the swell of the tide. The recent spurt in quarrying of coralline rocks for limestone has threatened rare marine flora. The declaration of the habitat of *T. expeditionis* as the Marine National Park near Port Blair is aimed at conserving many such species of rare occurrence and marine biological diversity.

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37. NOMENCLATURAL NOTES ON *OEDOGONIALES*

I received a copy of a book entitled *OEDOGONIALES* as a gift from the author, Prof. Ella

A. Gonsalves (Retd.), during a visit to her residence in August 1996. While going through

the book, a few nomenclatural errors have been noticed and the present paper deals with such nomenclatural changes.

1. *Oedogonium candollei* (Le Cl.) Breb. (1884) is the correct name for *Oedogonium fragile* Wittr. (1870) based on *Prolifera candollei* Le Cl. Mem. Mus. Paris 3: 473, pl. 23, (1817). Accordingly, the nomenclature of the varieties under this species has to be corrected as follows:

27 B. *Oedogonium candollei* (Le Cl.) Breb. var. *abyssinicum* (Hirn) Almeida comb. nov. = *O. fragile* Wittr. var. *abyssinicum* Hirn. Acta Soc. Sci. fenn. 27:97, t-6, f.35, 1900.

27 C. *Oedogonium candollei* (Le Cl.) Breb. var. *subdepressum* (Jao) Almeida, comb. nov. = *O. fragile* Wittr. var. *subdepressum* Jao, Bot. Bull. Acad. Sinica 2:51, f.2,K, 1948.

2. *Oedogonium tumidulum* Pringsh. (1855) is the correct name for *Oedogonium urbicum* Wittr. (1874). Actually, there are three homonyms as follows:

248. *Oedogonium tumidulum* (Kutz.) Wittr. (1874), based on *Conferva tumidulum* Kutz. (1833).

54. *Oedogonium tumidulum* Pringsh. (1855).

53. *Oedogonium tumidulum* (Roth.) Areschoug. (1864).

Prof. Gonzalves has accepted homonym no. 248 as the correct name on the basis that its basionym has priority. However, when Wittr. transferred it to the genus *Oedogonium*, the species epithet was already occupied and therefore cannot be used for the species. Consequently, the species number is provided herein with a new name *Oedogonium ellaianum* Almeida (nom. nov.) in honour of Prof. Ella Gonzalves.

As has been already accepted *Oedogonium upsaliense* (Wittr.) Tift (1939) is the correct name for *O. spetsbergene* Wittr. (1874).

3. *Oedogonium spetsbergene* Wittr. (1874) is the correct name for *O. vulgare* (Wittr.) Tift. (1939). The latter is based on *O. cryptoporum*

var. *vulgare* Wittr. (1874). As the rule of priority does not apply outside the rank of the taxon, *O. vulgare* (Wittr.) Tiff. (1934) is the illegitimate name.

In consequence of the above situation, the following new combination is necessitated:

58B. *Oedogonium spetsbergene* Wittr. forma *robusta* (Bharad.) Almeida (comb. nov.) = *O. vulgare* (Wittr.) Tiff. forma *robusta* Bharad., Proc. Indian Acad. Sci. B, 57:2, 1963.

4. *Oedogonium vernale* (Hassk.) Wittr. (1874), based on *Vesiculifera vernalis* Hassk. (1843), is the correct name for *O. crispum* (Hassk.) Wittr., based on a later name published in 1854. Hirn (1900) had accepted *V. vernalis* hassk. as part of the composite taxon *O. crispum* Wittr.

Consequently, the following infraspecific taxa require nomenclatural modifications:

80B. *Oedogonium vernale* (Hassk.) Wittr. var. *vernale* forma *inflatum* (Hirn.) Almeida, comb. nov. = *O. crispum* (Hassk.) Wittr. var. *crispum* forma *inflatum* Hirn. Acta. Soc. Sci. fenn. 27: 161, pl. 25. f.140, 1990.

80C. *Oedogonium vernale* (Hassk.) Wittr. var. *gracilescens* (Wittr.) Almeida, comb. nov. = *O. crispum* (Hassk.) Wittr. var. *gracilescens* Wittr. in Wittr. & Nordst., Alg. exs. No. 509, 1883.

80D. *Oedogonium vernale* (Hassk.) Wittr. var. *granulosum* (Nordst.) Almeida, comb. nov. = *O. crispum* (Hassk.) Wittr. var. *granulosum* Nordst., Ofvers Vetensk. Akad. Forh. Stockh. 34: 24, 1877.

80E. *Oedogonium vernale* (Hassk.) Wittr. var. *hawaiense* (Nordst.) Almeida, comb. nov. = *O. crispum* (Hassk.) Wittr. var. *hawaiense* Nordst., Minneskr. Fys. Salisk. Lund. 7:20, pl.2. f. 9-10, 1878.

80F. *Oedogonium vernale* (Hassk.) Wittr. var. *uruguayense* (Mag. & Wille) Almeida, comb. nov.

- = *O. crispum* (Hassk.) Wittr. var. *uruguayense* Mag. & Wille in Wille, Bih. svensk. Vetensk. Akad. Handl. 8:39, pl. 2, f. 63, 1884.
5. *Oedogonium sphaericum* Hall. (1905) is the correct name for *O. hallasiae* Tiff. (1934).
6. *Oedogonium monticchii* Fior-Mazz (1860) is the correct name for *O. inversum* Wittr. (1876) which necessitates the following new combination:
- 126B. *Oedogonium monticchii* Fior-Mazz. var. *minor* (Vill.) Almeida, comb. nov.
= *O. inversum* Wittr. var. *minor* Vill., Rev. gen. Bot. 60:677, f. 1, no. 12, 1953.
7. *Vesiculifera compressa* Hassk. (1845) is the earliest name for *Oedogonium calcareum* Cleve ex Wittr. (1840). This fact compels the following nomenclatural changes:
138. *Oedogonium compressum* (Hassk.) Almeida, comb. nov.
= *Vesiculifera compressa* Hassk., Hist. Brit. Fresh-water Algae 204, t-53, f.4, 1845.
- 138B. *Oedogonium compressum* (Hassk.) Almeida var. *africanum* (Fremy) Almeida, comb. nov.
= *O. calcareum* Cleve var. *africanum* Fremy, Bull. Soc. Hist. Nat. Afr. Nord. 21:74, pl.6, f.9b, 1930.
8. *Oedogonium calosporum* Hirn (1895) is the correct name for *O. longiarticulatum* (Hansg.) Tiff. (1934), which is based on *O. crenulatocostatum* Wittr. var. *longiarticulatum* Hansg. (1886).
As the rule of priority does not apply outside the rank of the taxon, *O. longiarticulatum* (Hansg.) Tiff. is an illegitimate name.
9. *Oedogonium platygynum* Wittr. var. *platygynum* forma *platygynum* is the correct name for *O. platygynum* Wittr. var. *platygynum* forma *obtusum* Hirn, as it includes the type *O. platygynum* Wittr. Consequently, the following combinations are essential:
- 279 A. *Oedogonium platygynum* Wittr. var. *platygynum* forma *major* (W. West.) Almeida, comb. nov.
= *O. platygynum* Wittr. forma *major* W. West, J. Linn. Soc. (Bot.) 29:109, pl. 18, f. 1, 1891.
- 279 B. *Oedogonium platygynum* Wittr. var. *platygynum* forma *platygynum*.
= *O. platygynum* Wittr. forma *obtusum* Hirn. Acta Soc. Sci. fenn. 27:277, pl.47, f. 303, 1900.
10. *Oedogonium borisianum* (Le cl.) Wittr. forma *tropicum* Isl. & Sarma (1965) has priority over *O. dachense* Gonzalves (1981). Therefore, the following new combination is proposed:
292. B *Oedogonium borisianum* (Le Cl.) Wittr. var. *borisianum* forma *tropicum* (Isl. & Sarma) Almeida, comb. nov.
= *O. borisianum* (Le Cl.) Wittr. forma *tropicum* Isl. & Sarma, Pak. J. biol. agric. Sci. 8:178, pl.3, f.32, 1965.
= *Oedogonium borisianum* (Le Cl.) Wittr. var. *borisianum* forma *dachense* Gonzalves, Oedogoniales 397, 1981.
11. *Oedogonium vesicatum* Link. (1856) is the correct name for *O. decipiens* Wittr. (1870). This necessitates the following new combinations:
- 381 B. *Oedogonium vesicatum* Link. var. *africanum* (Tiff.) Almeida, comb. nov.
= *O. decipiens* Wittr. var. *africanum* Tiff. Ohio. J. Sci. 29:74, 1929.
- 381 C. *Oedogonium vesicatum* Link. var. *compressum* (W. West.) Almeida, comb. nov.
= *O. londinense* (Wittr.) Hirn. var. *compressum* W. West., J. Linn. Soc. (Bot.) 29: 110, pl. 18, f. 10-12, 1891.
= *O. bernardense* Bates (1886).
= *O. decipiens* Wittr. var. *bernardense* (Bates) Hirn (1900).
- Although *O. bernardense* Bates (1886) is a prior name, it is not legitimate under varietal rank, because the rule of priority does not apply outside the rank of the taxon.

381 D. *Oedogonium vesicatum* Link var. *dissimile* (Tiff.) Almeida, comb. nov. = *O. decipiens* Wittr. var. *dissimile* (Hirn) Tiff. N. Amer. Flora II: 68, pl. 24, f. 384, 385, 1937.

12. *Oedogonium vesicatum* (Lyngb.) Wittr. (1874) is the later homonym of *O. vesicatum* Link (1856).

Although *Conferva vesicatum* Lyngb. (1819) had priority, the specific epithet *vesicatum* was pre-occupied in the genus *Oedogonium* and the name proposed by Wittr. becomes an illegitimate name.

Therefore the following new name is proposed:

485. *Oedogonium marselinae* Almeida, nom. nov. = *O. vesicatum* (Lyng) Wittr., Nova Acta Soc. Sci. Upsal 9:39, 1874 (non, 1873). = *Conferva vesicata* Lyng Tent. hydrophyth. danicae. Hafniae 140, pl. 47, f. D1, 1819.

This specific epithet proposed here is in honour of Marselin (Mr. M.R. Almeida) for his

contribution to Indian Botany.

13. *Bulbochaete variens* Wittr. var. *major* (Pringsh.) Almeida, comb. nov.

= *Bulbochaete pygmaea* var. *major* Pringsh. Jb. Wiss. Bot. 1:74, pl. 6, f. 11, 1858.

= *B. variens* Wittr. var. *subsimplax* (Wittr.) Hirn. (1900).

Although *B. subsimplax* Wittr. (1870) is the prior name, under the rank of species, the varietal epithet *major* has priority.

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38. WILD SPECIES OF *ABELMOSCHUS* MEDIC. (MALVACEAE) FROM CENTRAL HIMALAYAN REGIONS OF INDIA

Abelmoschus Medic. (Malvaceae) has 15 species which have originated and are cultivated all over the tropics in Asia and Australia (Hooker 1874, Babu 1977, Santapau and Henry 1984). In India, only 8 species are available throughout the hotter parts (Anonymous 1985, 1991). After the most thorough study to date, Waalkes (1966) stated that the 14-15 species recognized earlier can be reduced to 6-7 species only. The National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR) in

its National Programme of crop-specific study on okra germplasm exploration in the eight hill districts of U.P., India from 1985 to 1992, procured, collected and assembled three species of wild okra from the Central Himalayan region.

The material collected was compared with authentic collections preserved in Northern circle, Botanical Survey of India, Dehradun (DD), specimens were identified as *Abelmoschus*